HOUSE OF X

ISSUE 2 OF 6 — HICKMAN/LARRAZ/GRACIA

[kra_[APOC]
[koa_[APOC]

If you can find it in you to survive -- *if you are worthy* -- then I will make you into something more than them.

Something eternal.

-APOCALYPSE

[kra_[HORS]
[koa_[EMEN]

[kra_[0.0]...]
[koa_[0.0]...]

[APOC_forever]

When she was 13 years old, Moira fell ill. Her fever was high--*unnaturally so*--and the doctor's prognosis was not ***hopeful.***
The next day--*almost miraculously*--she was fine. *Better than ever.* ***Right as rain.***
Years later she would marry, become a schoolteacher and have three children. Two boys, Callum and Dean, and one girl, Abigail.
They would, in turn, have eight children of their own, and to Moira's great joy, once every year the extended family would return home.
Moira eventually died at the age of 74, when she passed peacefully in her sleep.
It was a *good life.* A ***human life.***
Predictable, mostly pleasant and not ***extraordinary*** at all.

Moira's second life began in utero. It was the *womb birth* of a ***fully sentient being*** who had a perfect recollection of her ***prior life.***
You would think being totally aware and trapped inside your mother would lend itself to madness...
But the rearing of children, *it seems,* comes with a certain amount of bliss baked in--some kind of embryonically induced neuroleptic. *Zen via biology.*
And the truth is I've never been happier. For your mother is ***safe.*** Your *mother* is ***home.***
It's the world ***out there*** that makes you ***lose your mind.***
Shortly after she was born, Moira's parents began to believe that she was ***special***--*and she was,* just not the way they thought.
There was nothing ***special*** about Moira learning to walk, speak and read early--*she was born knowing how to do these things...*
No, she was special because she was ***something new.*** And at the time, something few in the world--*including herself*--had ever seen.
Though she did not *know it,* Moira was a ***mutant.***

[00_house_of_x]
[00_house_02_2]

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[02] HOUSE OF X

[ISSUE TWO]...THE UNCANNY LIFE OF MOIRA X

X-MEN CREATED BY.................STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

[00_the_house]
[00_of_xavier]

[00_00...2]
[00_02...3]

[00_and_the]
[00_island_]

[00_of_kra_]

[00_koa...0]

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[kra_[0.1]
[koa_[2.1]

In her early years, Moira had to be careful not to let on what she really was. She had to hide what was going on in a mind that was older than the humans who made her.

She knew the pride they had for their special girl would quickly turn into fear if she pulled back the curtain a little too far.

But try as she might, it was impossible to completely conceal how different she was.

Her teachers began to use words like *"advanced"* and *"clever,"* which led to other words like *"brilliant"* and *"prodigy,"* which eventually led to Moira being pushed in the direction of academia. **A life of the mind.**

Moira didn't fight these efforts, as she herself wanted to understand who -- *and what* -- she was, and had exhausted all the possibilities the perspective of her first life offered her.

[kra_[4.1]
[koa_[6.1]

[kra_[8.1]...]
[koa_[9.1]...]

[Moira_L_TwoA]

[kra_[0.1]
[koa_[2.1]

Moira would later attend Oxford University. While there, she met some interesting people and eventually -- *after consideration of her unknown condition* -- concentrated her studies in the areas of psychology and biology.

She ran controlled experiments to prove that her memories were not a form of disorder or psychosis. She marked the existence of personal historical markers from her first life and discovered two things:

If she simply performed her role in events as she did in her previous life -- *if she was a passive participant* -- then that event would proceed almost exactly as before. This proved her memories were real.

But if she became an active participant, then she could change what happened.

And the path of her life would **diverge.**

[kra_[4.1]
[koa_[6.1]

[kra_[8.1]...]
[koa_[9.1]...]

[Moira_L_TwoB]

Which you would think would be amazing. Who wouldn't want to fix all the mistakes you'd made in the past?
Then again, that was before I knew what the observer effect was--and that simply by existing and watching, I was already *changing everything.*
And what seemed to be a gift--*something of a blessing*--wasn't a blessing at all.
It was a ***curse.***
Meeting the love of your life already knowing every flaw they possess--*along with the knowledge they will never change*--destroyed any chance of Moira re-creating what she had in her first life.
Familiarity breeds contempt, and her once-husband could see it in her eyes.
There would be no family for Moira in this life, no one to love, no one to be loved by...
...no children in the yard, playing and laughing.
And she wondered--*damned as she was*--if there were others like her in the world. ***Ruining it,*** right alongside her.
Then she saw a man on the television, someone she had a faint memory of. *Someone she met in school.*

I believe the shadows are no place for angels to hide.
So with that in mind, I feel it's finally time to put an end to masks. An end to hiding our gifts behind *"secret identities"* and ill-fitting clothes.
Ladies and gentlemen.
My name is Charles Xavier, also know as Professor X.
And I am a mutant.
His words echoed in her ears and took root in her heart.
Moira knew then she might be ***a mutant*** too, and that she had to talk with this man and find out for sure.
So Moira jumped on the first flight she could find to America and died when her plane crashed into the ocean.

In *Moira's third life,* she aggressively dove into a life of science. She realigned her areas of interest to focus on anthropology and genetics and actively sought out Charles Xavier when they were both at Oxford.
She knew that he was hiding what he was at the time--*and pushing ideas that served his own interest*--but she was able to use what she learned from him to determine that she was, in fact, a mutant.
But the combination of her distaste for her natural abilities--*along with the arrogance of Xavier's ideas and what she felt was his thinly disguised god complex*--made her fearful of revealing what she was to him.
SCHER
Charles Xavier, Moira decided, wasn't a *solution* to ***anything.*** He--*like her*--was suffering from a disease. Mutation, you see, is a *cancer*...
...and she decided to devote her life to ***curing the world of it.***
And after years of research and experimentation, Moira and her team succeeded.
She found a way to eliminate that *cursed* mutant gene. She found her ***cure.***

But she never got a chance to use it.
She wasn't *allowed* to.
It's interesting. I can't see her at all...
I can see the world bending around her--*the eddies of change rippling out*--but she is just...***an absence.***
A hole where there shouldn't be one.
A mutant who is invisible to other mutants.
It's a defense mechanism of a sort--*I suppose*--but not much good once you know what you're looking for.
Is she looking at me now, Raven?
She is... and she doesn't look *happy.*

Yes. Well. I suppose we've given her good reason.
Then again, we were acting with cause.
Listen to me, child. My mutant name is Destiny, and I have the power to see the future.
Which is tricky with someone like you, since your mutant power is reincarnation.
One might think that would be impossible--seeing the future of someone who potentially has a limitless, unending one.
But here I am, child. See me.
You-- you killed all my friends... everyone...
So if you're going to kill me, then just kill me and get it over with.
Oh, we're going to do that, but it doesn't do much good if we just have to do it all over again next time.
Now listen closely...Destiny has a word for you.

Such a gift, *knowledge.*
And yet here you are, using it to *betray your own kind.*
It's a *disease*--what we are.
But I'm not trying to force it on anyone--I'm only trying to cure people who *want it.*
You think this stops at *want?* You think they'll let you keep this thing you've made? *Do you have any idea how much they hate us?*
The humans will come for you. They'll break you, chain you and make you their own. Then mankind will use what you've done here to *eliminate* our *entire race.*
I have seen the potential of your good works, and *I do not care for them.*
How, exactly, is it that you think you can stop me?
I am much older than you are. My powers will have manifested *full of the knowledge of what we have done.*
If you--*once again*--try to do this evil work against our people, like today, I will see the potential outcome of it and find you. *Again.*
And if you try to kill me before I kill you...I will see *my end* coming and prevent it.
You see, Moira, we are joined together now, you and I. You will know that I am out there, waiting for this version of you. And you, knowing that, have a choice:
Change or die.
Help your people, or I will annihilate you in all your lives to come.
...
I think she's still on the fence and needs a bit more encouragement.

Very well, here it is...
You're a smart woman who is beginning to understand the potential of your power. You're starting to believe that you are in an eternal loop of some kind.
That your powers give you a version of immortality. I want you to know they do not.
...
I see ten lives, Moira. Maybe eleven if you make the right choice at the end...but that is all.
How is...
How is that possible?
You are born each time with the knowledge of your previous lives, but if you die as a child--before your mutant powers manifest--then you will not reincarnate.
You simply end. Like everyone else.
And what if I don't believe you? Or that what you've said is true?
Or that what you want is right?
My dear, you're a scientist. You tell me how one would go about proving something like that.
I test it. Experience it for myself.
In my next life.
The question is, will you?
Will you embrace what you are and help your people instead of hurt them?
I... I...
I don't know.

Let's find out.
I don't want to die like this.
Dying *like this*...is what a life poorly lived gets you.
Pyro?
Yes, Mother?
Burn her.
And slowly, so she doesn't forget how *dying* like this *feels.*
AAIIEEEEEEEEE!

Moria's fourth life began with *urgency.*
She threw herself into fully understanding what she would eventually call the *human-mutant dilemma.*
When two aggressive species share the same environment, evolution demands either ***adaptation*** or ***dominance.***
Moira began to look at the problem beyond her own limited experience and considered the potential benefits of *Homo superior.*
GROUND HOG DAY
Happy Hour!
After all, evolution is what gave the world mankind. Perhaps-- *in the coming days*--the world would need ***something more.***
And in this new light, Moira also gave Charles Xavier a second look.
She saw beyond the confidence--*beyond the arrogance*--to what was hidden underneath.
A mutant who was determined to make sure his people had a place in the world.
He was a ***mutant*** with a ***dream.***
And over time, it made her *love him.*

So much so that she stood by his side for the rest of their days.
Through the *gifted years.*
Through the time of *hate and fear.*
Through the *lost decade.*
Until the *very end...*
...when, as Destiny had promised, the humans--*and their extinction machines*--came for them and all the children.

In Moira's fifth life, she decided aggression was the only acceptable response to the violent tendencies of man.
Stealing the means from her parents, she ran away from home at the age of 13 and fled to America.
There, Moira sought out Charles Xavier almost a full decade before they were *supposed* to meet.
She opened her mind to him for the first time, and he saw all that she had experienced in her first four lives. He saw how his dream had failed...and the experience ***radicalized him.***
Instead of a school of mutants, he gathered a ***legion.*** He built a city full of man's evolutionary betters.
And the walls, they *held back* the outside *world of man...*
...until the machines--*Bolivar Trask's adaptive, learning machines*--came for the mutants again.

Moira spent the entirety of her seventh life *eradicating* the ***Trask bloodline.***
Bolivar.
Donald.
Gwyneth.
Simon.
Without *mercy.* Without *pity.* She came for all ***their*** children.

Then, with *blood on her hands* and *blood in her mouth,* Moira learned the darkest truth of all her many lives regarding man's nightmare machines.
Artificial intelligence is like fire. It's a ***discovery,*** not an ***invention.*** All she succeeded in doing was stopping a Trask from being the first human to burn their hand.
Like mutants, the machines simply ***emerge*** at a certain point during societal and environmental evolution.
And with that, any hope Moira had of her being able to stop them died...and the experience ***radicalized her.***

In Moira's eighth life, she left behind the dream of Charles Xavier and embraced the ***necessary evil*** of the master of magnetism.
Moira filled Magneto's mind with stories of *future holocausts.* Another ***war lost.*** Another ***people destroyed.***
Magneto raged...

...and fell to the combined might of Earth's human heroes and the mutants.
Betrayed by his own kind, fools who believed in a greater human good.

And with what she feared was little time left--*little lives left*--Moira embraced the idea of evolutionarily dominance.
Survival of the fittest.
Some thought him a *monster.* Some called him *evil.*
But to Moira, Apocalypse was simply the *only solution* she had ***not tried.***

And if the humans wanted a war...
...if their *machines* did...
...then they would give them one ***without end.***

And then...
And then...
After all the lives lost, after the end of all the wars, armed with the knowledge that all the old ways--*and all the old ways of thinking*--would never be enough to save her people, she decided to try something ***truly revolutionary...***
...and in Moria's tenth life, she decided she and Charles Xavier would break all the rules.

And I wondered, *why*, sitting there under parted skies and brilliant sun, was this strong man *smiling so?*
I was, wasn't I?
Yes.
Do you want to know why?
I do. *Very much so.*
I was smiling because I have recently had the most wonderful dream.
Of a **better world** and *my place in it.*
Well, here's the thing, **Charles...**
It's not a **dream** if it's *real.*

...
I'm sorry.
Do we know one another?
Oh yes.
We go back quite a ways.
Who are you?
Why don't you read my mind, Charles?
Read my mind and ***see.***
Ah...

[kra_[0.1]
[koa_[2.1]

I am here.

I have always been here.

-MOIRA X

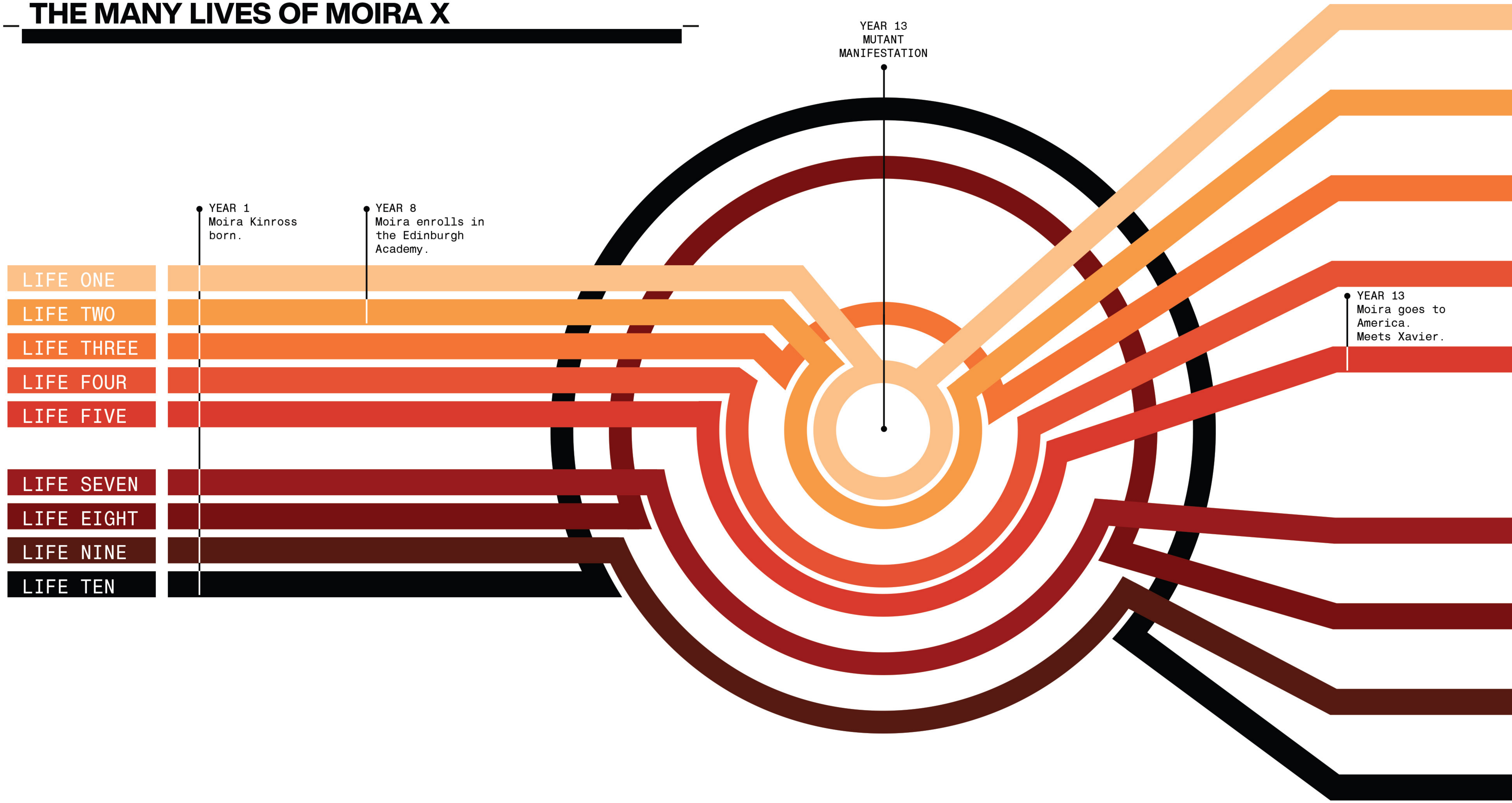
[kra_[4.1]
[koa_[6.1]

[kra_[8.1]...]
[koa_[9.1]...]

[MOIRA_ -.X.-]

[Moira_X [00.25]_01]

THE MANY LIVES OF MOIRA X


LIFE ONE
LIFE TWO
LIFE THREE
LIFE FOUR
LIFE FIVE
LIFE SEVEN
LIFE EIGHT
LIFE NINE
LIFE TEN

YEAR 1
Moira Kinross
born.

YEAR 8
Moira enrolls in
the Edinburgh
Academy.

YEAR 13
MUTANT
MANIFESTATION

YEAR 13
Moira goes to
America.
Meets Xavier.

[Moira_X [00.25]_06]

YEAR 15
Moira meets
Kenneth Cowan.
Falls in love.

YEAR 17
Moira meets
Xavier.

YEAR 19
Moira marries
Kenneth Cowan.

YEAR 23
Moira gives birth
to twin boys,
Callum and Dean.

YEAR 27
Moira gives birth
to a daughter,
Abigail.

YEAR 15
Moira meets Kenneth
Cowan. Does not
fall in love.

YEAR 16
Moira enrolls
at Oxford.

YEAR 20
Moira becomes a
biology professor.

YEAR 16
Moira enrolls
at Oxford.

YEAR 16
Moira enrolls
at Oxford.

YEAR 23
Moira and Xavier
marry.

YEAR 24
Xavier and Moira
establish the mutant
nation of Faraway.

YEAR 16
Moira joins the
BAF. Receives
military training.

YEAR 21
Moira disappears.

YEAR 16
Moira enrolls
at Oxford.

YEAR 17
Moira rejects
Xavier.

YEAR 24
Moira joins
Magneto.

YEAR 27
Magneto conquers
America.

YEAR 18
Moira wakes
Apocalypse.

YEAR 19
Apocalypse kills
Xavier.

YEAR 21
Apocalypse kills
Magneto.

YEAR 24
Moira and Apocalypse
rescue the first Horsemen
and return to Earth.

YEAR 16
Moira enrolls
at Oxford.

YEAR 17
Moira meets
Xavier.

YEAR 25
Moira marries
Joseph
MacTaggert.

YEAR 27
Moira founds the
Muir Research
Institute.

[Moira_X [00.25]_01]

YEAR 68
Kenneth dies.

YEAR 74
Moira dies of congestive heart failure.

YEAR 31
Moira founds the Muir Research Institute.

YEAR 44
Moira dies in plane crash.

YEAR 28
Moira founds the Muir Research Institute.

YEAR 36
Moira identifies X-Gene.

YEAR 38
Moira wins Nobel Prize.

YEAR 42
Moira dies in laboratory fire.

YEAR 35
Xavier and Moira establish the Xavier School for Gifted Children.

YEAR 55
Moira dies in Sentinel attack.

YEAR 43
Moira injured in Sentinel attack (coma).

YEAR 44
Genocide at Faraway.

YEAR 28
Moira kills Bolivar Trask.

YEAR 31
Moira kills Donald Trask.

YEAR 36
Moira kills Gwyneth Trask.

YEAR 38
Moira kills Simon Trask.

YEAR 49
Moira dies after discovering wild Master Mold facility.

YEAR 28
Moira establishes House of M.

YEAR 35
Magneto dies in War of M. Moira imprisoned.

YEAR 38
Moira dies in failed prison escape.

YEAR 28
Moira and Apocalypse form the X-Men.

YEAR 35
Apocalypse enslaves Sinister.

YEAR 42
Apocalypse War begins.

YEAR 31
Moira gives birth to Proteus.

YEAR 43
Moira and Xavier recruit Magneto.

YEAR 48
Moira fakes death (Shi'ar golem).

YEAR 49
Genocide at Genosha.

YEAR 52
House of X.

YEAR 28
Moira wins Nobel Prize.

YEAR 47
Moira/Xavier/Magneto schism.

[Moira_X [00.25]_06]

READING ORDER

TWO SERIES THAT ARE ONE:

HOUSE OF X #1:	JULY 24, 2019
POWERS OF X #1:	JULY 31, 2019
HOUSE OF X #2:	AUGUST 7, 2019
POWERS OF X #2:	AUGUST 14, 2019
POWERS OF X #3:	AUGUST 21, 2019
HOUSE OF X #3:	AUGUST 28, 2019
HOUSE OF X #4:	SEPTEMBER 4, 2019
POWERS OF X #4:	SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
HOUSE OF X #5:	SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
POWERS OF X #5:	SEPTEMBER 25, 2019
HOUSE OF X #6:	OCTOBER 2, 2019
POWERS OF X #6:	OCTOBER 9, 2019

[pow_[0.0]
[ers_[0.0]
[ofX_[2.6]
[ofX_[2.6]

[kra_[0.2]...]
[koa_[0.2]...]

[os_orbi__0x]

[pow_[0.0]
[ers_[0.0]
[ofX_[3.6]
[ofX_[3.6]

[kra_[0.3]...]
[koa_[0.3]...]

[os_apoc__00]

E
E
M
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P
I
ZONE